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INDIANA FARMER & GARDENER.

Indianapolis, Saturday, September 6, 1845.

Select List of Apples.--Autumn Apples.

(Continued from our last.)

10. MAIDEN'S BLUSH. Tree moderately spreading, open top, limbs slender; grows late in fall, and somewhat liable to winter-killing; grows well on all good soils; bears young and very abundantly every year. The fruit large when the tree is not allowed to ripen too large a crop; white, and blush toward the sun; tender, melting, very juicy, decidedly acid. The fruit is, even in unfavorable seasons, very free from cracks, knots, and is always fair; one of the best for drying and excellent for marketing; should be plucked before it is dead ripe; ripens from August to October. It is the same as the English Horthornden. It does not do well grafted on the root; being apt to burst the first or second winter: buds well, and should be thus propagated in the nursery. It is a native of New Jersey.

11. WINE APPLE. Tree spreading but not sprawling; medium grower, healthy; limbs rather slender; does well on all soils; bears very young, largely, and every year. Fruit large on young, and medium-sized on old trees; deep yellow ground covered with red, and russet about the stem; tender, melting, very juicy, high-flavored, sweet with a spicy dash of subacid. One of the richest cooking apples; one of the most desirable for drying, resembling dried pears. Where known it is worth, dried, a dollar and a half a bushel, when other apples command but seventy-five cents. Ripens first of September and has passed its prime by November. Eastern writers call it a winter apple, and Kenrick gives October to March as its season; but, with us, it seldom sees the first winter month. Takes by graft and bud pretty well; does well grafted upon the root; favorable for nursery purposes.

12. HOLLAND PIPPIN. Tree large and spreading; strong growth; wood short and stubbed, healthy; bears moderately young; they are averse to heavy clay and wet soils; on light, dry, rich, sandy soils bears largely, and of high color and flavor; bears every other year. Fruit large, very bright yellow, tender, juicy, subacid. The pulp in the mouth becomes rather viscid, as if the fruit were mucilaginous, which is agreeable or otherwise according to the taste of the eater. It is sometimes, but rarely, water cored. Ripens in October and November; will keep later, but apt to lose its flavor. Good for drying, but usually sold green, being a very

marketable fruit. Not a good tree for nurserymen; not willing to come if grafted on the root; does well by crown-grafting; moderately well by budding, the eye being apt to put out simply a spur, which can seldom be forced into a branch if permitted to harden.

13. RAMBO. This apple is known in New Jersey by the names Romanite, Seek-no-further, and Bread and Cheese. The first two names belong to entirely different apples. The Rambo is not to be confounded with the *Rambours*, of which there are several varieties. Tree upright, and the most vigorous growth of all trees cultivated in this region; the easiest of all to bud with, a bud seldom misses, and makes extraordinary growth the first season; it may well be called the nurseryman's favorite; bears very young, abundantly, every year, good on all soils. Fruit medium size, yellow ground with red stripes and the whole overlaid with a bloom, like a plum; tender, juicy, melting, subacid, rich; it has a peculiarity of ripening; it begins at the skin and ripens towards the core; often soft and seemingly ripe on the outside while the inside is yet hard. Ripens from October to December. One of the best of fall fruits.

14. GOLDEN RUSSET. This admirable apple is put in the list of fall fruits because, though it will keep through the winter, it ripens in November, and sometimes even in October. Tree, strong grower, upright, compact top, healthy, grows late in fall and therefore subject to winter-killing; will grow on all soils, but delights in rich sandy loams, on which it bears larger and finer fruit. Fruit small, rather oblong; color yellow, slight red next to the sun; although called *russet*, there is but a *trace* of it on the fruit of healthy trees; tender, melting, spicy, very juicy; in flavor it resembles the St. Michael's *pear*, (Doyenné) more nearly than any other apple.

This fruit is the most popular of all late fall or early winter apples, and deservedly, and should be put at the head of the list. A gentleman near Belfre, Ohio, being applied to for a list of apples to furnish an orchard of a thousand trees for marketing purposes, replied — "take 999 golden russets, and the *rest* you can choose to suit yourself." For nursery purposes it is rather a backward apple; the buds apt to fail, which occasions much re-setting. It will not do well grafted on the root, being tender and always largely winter-killed when so wrought. They graft kindly on well established stocks.

If a larger list of fall apples is desired, we recommend the Fall Harvey, Gravenstein, Lyscom, Porter, Red Ingestrie, Yellow do. The Ashmore is a desirable fruit — difficult to raise in the nursery, and therefore avoided, but the fruit is fine. The Ross Nonpareil is a very admirable fall fruit of Irish origin.

The list of Autumn apples is very large and continually augmenting. But fall apples are, ordinarily, less desirable than any others; not from inferior quality, but because they ripen at the season of the year when peaches and pears are in their glory.

(*To be continued.*)

Fall Transplanting.

Authorities are divided as to the propriety of fall transplanting. Stone fruits, it is supposed, do not do as well as if removed in the spring. Seed-fruits, in the middle states, may be transplanted in the fall with safety. Mr. Downing, in his new work, speaks decidedly on this point:

"All physiologists, however, agree that the best season for transplanting deciduous trees is in autumn, directly after the fall of the leaf. The tree is then in a completely dormant state. Transplanted at this early season, whatever wounds may have been made in the roots commence healing at once, as a deposite directly takes place of granulous matter from the wound, and when the spring arrives the tree is already somewhat established, and ready to commence its growth. Autumn planting, for this reason, is greatly to be preferred in all mild climates, and dry soils; and even for very hardy trees, as the apple, in colder latitudes; as the fixed position in the ground, which trees planted then get by the autumnal and early spring rains, gives them an advantage, at the next season of growth, over newly moved trees.

On the other hand, in northern portions of the Union, where the winters commence early, and are severe, spring planting is greatly preferred. There, autumn and winter are not mild enough to allow this gradual process of healing and establishing the

roots to go on; for when the ground is frozen to the depth of the roots of a tree, all that slow growth and collection of nutriment by the roots is necessarily at an end. And the more tender sorts of fruit trees, the peach and apricot, which are less hardy when newly planted than when their roots are entire, and well fixed in the soil, are liable to injury in their branches by the cold. The proper time, in such a climate, is as early as the ground is in a fit condition in the spring.

"Early in autumn, and in spring before the buds expand, may, as a general rule, be considered the best seasons for transplanting."

The convenience of fall transplanting is unquestionable. The farmer has more leisure, his ground is in better condition for working, and, while in the spring the whole work is liable to be crowded into a few days by a sudden advance of heat, the work may be conducted in autumn with great leisure and security. The period of fall-transplanting may be anticipated by many weeks by adopting

LOVETT'S METHOD.

This method is so named, from Capt. Joseph Lovett, of Beverly, Mass., who, in his own words has, till "within the last ten years, plowed the ocean." It may almost be called summer transplanting. It is well known that trees finish toward the middle or last of August their first growth; the ends of the new shoots are blunt — send out no fresh leaves, and make no more growth. But after the fall rains there is usually a second growth. Before this second growth commences, the trees to be removed, are raised, *every leaf is clipped off*, and they are re-set, in all respects as in other transplantations. The tree will be materially assisted, if before re-setting, it is plunged into a tub of water, and allowed to stand from twelve to twenty-four hours.

This method is desirable because the tree, if skillfully treated in the removal, *establishes its roots* before winter. Capt. Lovett (in Hovey's Magazine) says:

"In several instances, after planting thus early, I have examined the roots in November, and invariably found that they had made new rootlets; in one instance, having to remove a pear tree on quince stock, in November, after having set it out the first of September, I found it had made new roots nearly a foot in length. Great care should be taken not to set the roots too deep, particularly on moist or adhesive soils. Should the drought affect them on light dry soils, a half peck to a peck, according to the size of the tree, of unleached wood ashes, placed round from the body of the tree, to the distance of four feet, and well watered, will effectually prevent any injury from drought."

In garden work it is well, in fall transplanting, to cover the surface of the ground some inches deep with coarse manure, or any sufficient protection; inasmuch as the roots, being tender, will not as well endure the cold as those which have not been disturbed and weakened.

Ornamental Shrubs.

(*Continued from page* 226.)

Dwarf Almond, (Amygdalus nàna,) but now called by botanists Cerasus or Prùnus japónica. This favorite shrub is found in all gardens and yards. The profusion of its blossoms and the delicacy of their color make it, during the short time of its inflorescence, deservedly a favorite. As it flowers before its leaves put forth, it requires a green back ground to produce its full effect. It should therefore be planted against evergreens.

Wood Honeysuckle, (Azálea.) This is a native of North America, and is perfectly hardy. It flourishes best in a half shade, and flowers freely. There have been a vast number of varieties originated from crossing the species; and the nurseries will supply almost every shade of color from white to brilliant flame color.

The A. póntica, is also hardy; but the Chinese species require a green house. This is one of the most magnificent shrubs that can be cultivated, and deserves the special attention of those who wish to form even a moderately good shrubbery.

The *Berbery*, (Bérberis vulgàris) is quite beautiful when in fruit. It is easily propagated, grows in any soil, requires little pruning, and is very good for hedges.

Globe Flower, (Córchorus japónica,) a very pretty shrub with double yellow flowers, which are in abundance early in the summer, and also, but sparingly, shewn throughout the season.

"By some mistake Kérria japónica was at first supposed to belong to Corchorus, a

genus of Tiliaceæ, and of course nearly allied to the lime tree; to which it bears no resemblance, though it is still called Corchorus japónica in the nurseries. It is also singular, that though the double-flowered va-variety was introduced into England in 1700, the species was not introduced till 1835. It is a delicate little shrub, too slender to support itself in the open air; but when trained against a wall, flowering in great profusion. It should be grown in a light rich soil, and it is propagated by cuttings."— *Companion to the Flower Garden.*

Laburnum. (Cytisus labúrnum.) This beautiful plant forms a small tree, which, in May, is covered with pendent yellow blossoms. Blooming at the same time with the lilac, the two planted together have an extremely beautiful effect. It is hardy, grows in any soil, and is propagated easily by seed.

The Scotch Laburnum, (C. alpinus,) is much more beautiful than the common kind, "the flowers and leaves being larger and the flower more frequently fragrant. They are also produced much later in the season, not coming into flower till the others are quite over."

Althea, or Rose of Sharon. (Hibíscus syriàcus.) One of the most desirable shrubs for yards and gardens. The form of the shrub is compact and sightly; flowers double, and may be had of every color; it is hardy, growing well in all soils, and blooms continually from the last of July till frost. It is beautiful in avenues, and, being patient of the shears, it will form a fine *floral* hedge, a good specimen of which may be seen on Mr. Hoffner's beautiful grounds near Cincinnati. The single altheas are not so desirable. We regard this shrub as worthy of much more extensive cultivation than it has received. Its flowers are coarse on a close inspection, but at a little distance, and among other plants its effect is excellent. It is very easily propagated by cuttings, or from the seed.

Sweet-scented Shrub. (Calycánthus flóridus.) Chiefly desirable from the pine-apple-fragrance of its brownish-purple flowers.—They are used to scent drawers, to carry in the pocket, &c. It grows freely in any dry, rich soil, and is propagated by layers and suckers.

Red-bud. (Cercis Canadensis.) This small tree is familiar to every one, being the first spring flowering tree of our woods. It flourishes in gardens and makes a finer appearance there than in its native localities.

(*To be continued.*)

How to Obtain Grape Vines.

Will you be so kind as to give us the best time and mode of grafting, or getting a start of grape vines? W. M. Allison.

Grafting is only practiced on the vine for special reasons, and we have never had occasion to try it. We hope some correspondent will furnish the time and manner of doing it, when it *needs* to be done. We shall speak of a better mode of obtaining vines.

The best method of "getting a start" of grape vines is, by the employment of cuttings. These may be planted immediately after the spring pruning of established vines. But cuttings of native grapes, are as well planted *in the fall.* The granulation, from which the roots spring, will form during the winter, and the cuttings, starting early in the spring, will make good growth the first year. Cuttings are the best, because they can be procured easily, abundantly, and cheaply; they will bear carriage to any distance, are exceedingly tenacious of life, and they make thriftier plants. Cuttings may be set, either where they are to remain; in which case several should be set, to allow for failures, and only the strongest finally retained; or, they may be set in nursery rows, eight inches apart. Cuttings should be inserted about eight inches deep, and have two eyes or buds above the surface. The *two* buds are merely precautionary; that if one fails the other may sprout; one only, and that the strongest, should finally be permitted to grow.

An old and skillful cultivator of the vine says that *cuttings are the best of all modes* of securing a supply of vines. "For my part I am for scions without roots, after many experiments. All the advantage the one with roots has over the other, is, that they are more sure to live; but they will not in general, *make as thrifty plants.*"—*J. J. Dufour, Vevay, Ia.*

This only objection to cuttings — that a part of them fail to root—is of little practi-

cal importance, as they are easily obtained in any quantity.

For the Indiana Farmer and Gardener.

Gapes in Chickens.

ORANGE Co., Aug. 25th 1845.

MR. EDITOR: — Please inform me how to prevent the gapes in chickens. I have not raised two dozen chickens this season on account of the gapes; my neighbors around me seem to be but little or none at all troubled in rearing chickens; therefore I can not account for the gapes being so bad on my farm. I found upon examination that the cause of the gapes is from small red worms in the wind-pipe; how they can get them I cannot tell. I have tried various remedies for the cure without any good. Now I want a preventive if there is any known.

Wheat is good with a tolerable good crop per acre. JOHN F. KIMBLEY.

Will some of our readers give us and ours, the benefit of whatever they may know on this subject? Meanwhile we can only give some fruits of our *reading*, for *practice* we have never had:

A writer for the American Farmer directs in order to *prevent* fowls from being attacked with gapes, to 'take a piece of assafœtida about the size of a hen's egg, beat it tolerably flat, and wrap a piece of cotton cloth around it, and nail it to the botton of the trough where the hens are daily watered;' this method, if adopted in the spring of the year, when the hens begin to bring forth their young broods, will be attended with invariable success in preventing that destructive disorder.'

A remedy for this disease from the same paper, is as follows: Take as much kitchen soap as will cover the thumb nail, and having mixed it up with some meal dough, give it to your chickens at any stage of the disease. This has been found effectual on the first application almost always; a second is rarely necessary, and when it is so, it is next to impossible that it should fail.

We have seen it recommended to apply spirits of turpentine to the inside of the throat with a feather. Another remedy which the American Farmer says is *infallible*, is a teaspoonfull of a strong solution of assafœtida. Cannot Henry Mikron of Madison, give us information? We perceive him to be addicted to the art of mystery of rearing poultry.

Since writing the above we see in the Ohio Cultivator another *preventive*, adopted, as the lady correspondent says, from an old receipt: a few old nails were put in vinegar until it became very black; their food was mixed with this vinegar until they were a month old; and all so fed were healthy, while the most of those previously hatched, had perished of gapes.

Subsoil Plowing.

One of the great improvements of the age is the adoption in husbandry of the subsoil plow; or, as it is called in England, *the Deanstonizing system*, from Mr. Smith of *Deanstone*, who first brought the implement into general notice. These plows may be obtained of Ely & Campbell, Cincinnati, at about ten dollars. They are designed to follow in the furrow of a common plow, and pulverize, without bringing up, the soil for eight or ten inches deeper. In ordinary soils two yoke of oxen will work it with ease, plowing from an acre to an acre and a quarter a day.

The use of this plow will renovate old bottom lands, the surface of which has been exhausted by shallow plowing and continual cropping. It brings up from below fresh material, which the atmosphere speedily prepares for crops.

Old fields, a long time in grass, are very much benefitted.

Constant plowing at about the same depth will often form a hard under-floor by the action of the plow, through which neither roots nor rain can well penetrate; subsoiling will relieve a field thus conditioned.

Soils lying upon clay, or hard compact gravel are opened and remarkably improved by the process. The wet, level, beech-lands would be greatly benefitted by deep plowing in the *fall of the year*, subjecting the earth, to a considerable depth, to the action of the frosts, rains &c., and giving a downward drain for superfluous moisture.

Although we have incidentally alluded to the benefits of subsoiling, they deserve a separate and individual enumeration.

1. In very deep moulds or loams it brings up a supply of soil which has not been exhausted by the roots.

2. In soils whose fertility is dependent upon the constant decomposition of mineral

substances, subsoil plowing is advantageous by bringing up the disintegrated particles of rock and exposing them to a more rapid change by contact with atmospheric agents.

3. Subsoiling guards both against too much, and too little moisture in the soil. If there is more water than the soil can absorb, it sinks through the pulverized under-soil. If summer droughts exhaust the moisture of the surface, they cannot reach the subsoil, which affords abundant pasture to the roots.

We hope that some of our enterprising farmers will, this fall, procure one of these plows and make a fair trial of its virtues.

Planting out Bulbs.

There are very few who can afford the time and expense for preparing bulb beds as directed by the books. If one is raising bulbs for commercial purposes, or can sell the choicest kinds at extravagant prices, it is proper, because profitable, to attend to the minutest item of cultivation. But ninety-nine lovers of flowers in a hundred would be unable to have bulbs if compelled to raise them *scientifically*.

For tulips, hyacinths, narcissuses, and crocuses, general directions may be given which shall enable all to adorn the garden with them at little expense.

The soil should be mellowed two spades deep, and thoroughly pulverized. If the soil is a deep, rich, sandy loam, it will suffice to spade it deeply and plant the bulbs without farther preparation.

If it is a clayey, or stiff, poor soil, it must be brought to a loamy state, by the addition of sand and manure. A compost of equal parts sand, very thoroughly decayed manure and common garden soil forms and excellent bed. In a tough clay, the natural soil should be taken out to the depth of twenty inches, and the space filled with this compost. In forming a compost, cow dung is better than any other manure.

Let the bulbs be planted eight inches apart every way, and from three to four inches deep, according to the size of the bulb, measuring always from the crown.

"Hyacinths, Persian Frittillary, Martagon, and other Lillies, and Pæonies, should be planted at the depth of four inches, Crown Imperials and Polyanthus Narcissus, five inches; Tulips, Double and Single Narcissus, Jonquils, Colchicums, Snow Flakes, Bulbous Iris, and Gladiolus, three inches; Crocus, Arums, Small Fritillaries, and Snow Drops, two inches; Ranunculus and Anemone, one and a half inches; Dogstooth Violet, one inch; always measuring from the top of the bulb. The rows should be ten inches apart, and the roots to be placed from four to six inches apart in rows, according to their size.

"In the middle and northern States, it will, on the approach of winter, be beneficial, though not absolutely necessary, to cover the beds with straw, withered leaves, or light earth from the woods, (such as is formed by the decay of foliage,) to the depth of two or three inches, as it prevents any ill effects which a very severe season might have upon the roots. This covering must be carefully raked off early in the spring. The Polyanthus Narcissus, Hoop Petticoat Narcissus, and Arum Dracunculus, being more tender than other species, require a covering of five or six inches of straw or leaves in the manner above detailed."

Potting Garden Plants for Winter use.

Roses, Geraniums, Chrysanthemums, Cape Jessamines, &c., which have been put into the garden borders, should now be prepared for removal to the parlor for winter. This should be done before frost, else the plants will not be established in the pots when removed to the parlor, and will thrive but poorly.

Select the pot which is to receive each plant, draw a circle about the plant of the size of the pot, then thrust a sharp spade down so as to cut all the roots at the line of the circle described. Let the plant remain, watering it *thoroughly;* and if it droops, let it be sheltered from the sun. In a few days new roots will begin to form within the ball of earth described by the circle, and in three or four weeks that ball may be carefully lifted, placed in the pot for which it was measured, and it will go on growing as if nothing had happened to it. If one waits till frost, then digs up the plant without a previous preparation of its roots, it will, often times, not recover from the violence during the winter. But by the method suggested above, roses &c. will go on growing and blooming through the winter.

Price of Wheat.

At Cincinnati wheat sells at fifty-five, at Lafayette forty-five, at Michigan city, sixty, at this place, at thirty-seven cents.

The price does not seem fairly settled. The result of the English harvest will be looked for by eastern operators with great interest. The prospects are represented as gloomy. We extract from Wilmer & Smith's account of the crops:

"It will be seen that the upward price of grain during the last month has been steady and uniform, and that the article is dearer now by 12s. to 14s. per quarter than it was at the corresponding period in July. At Liverpool, on the last market day, foreign flour improved from 2s. 3s. per barrel, and wheat upwards of 3d. per 70 pounds. As a large supply will be looked for from North America, where the recent accounts represent the new crops as being prolific, the subject is of the last importance to our commercial readers, and to it we direct their special attention. Even with the fine weather, it is believed, so low are the stocks, that the recent advance will be maintained; and, if the worst apprehensions be realized, wheat, in less than a month from this time, may be held at 80s. or even 90s. per quarter.* If dependence is to be placed in the accounts from the Baltic ports, the produce of wheat in the districts where it is most extensively grown is likely to be very deficient. At Dantzic a good deal of speculation has been going on, and prices equal to 42s per quarter, free on board, have, it is said, been paid. For supplies received from the interior, down the Vistula, 34 to 36s. have been realized. At Rostock and the lower Baltic ports 34s. per quarter, free on board, have been given, and even at these rates only a limited quantity could be had. At Stettin nearly the same rates have ruled. In short, the least additional excitement would send up the price of wheat alarmingly all over Europe."

* A quarter is eight bushe's.—*Ed.*

Blasted Roses.

We have a fine rose of the Noisette family which is vigorous, and healthy in every respect except in its blooming. It sets an immense number of buds, one-half of which drop off before half grown and the remainder begin to open and then blast. What is the cause, and what the remedy?

Make a bridge of silver for a flying enemy.

Horse Thieves.

Mr. Crane, of Elkhart county, passed through this place on the 24th ult, in pursuit of a pair of horses and the man who stole them. He stated to us that some fifteen or twenty horses had been run from that county within a short time; and not more than three or four regained.

At last, a society for the pursuit of Horse thieves had been formed. It is rather late to be sure; but better late than never. It is the only way of securing horses where a gang of rogues have set their hearts upon having them. From what he has since learned, Mr. C. says, that the rascal would have been caught on his first day's ride, if men had started on all the main routes the morning after the theft. There seems to have been a great increase in the number and audacity of villians in this State within a few years.

Corn after Turneps.

"Mr. Bela Shaw, of Rockford, assures us that corn will not do well after turneps, he having known the trial made with the same results repeatedly. Can any body tell why?

Prairie Farmer.

We presume that turneps do as well after corn as corn does after turneps. Both are large consumers of potash; and, in soils not rich in that substance, the one crop unfits the soil for the other, very much as a horse unfits his manger for another horse—*by eating up the fodder*. If land were thoroughly dressed with ashes after the turnep crop was taken off, it would yield corn; at least, as good a crop as it would have done if the turneps had not been planted.

The ashes of corn stalks contain 72 per cent. of salts of potash and soda; turneps contain 81 per cent. Both are exhausters of the soil in respect of its potash. But turneps withdraw nine pounds more to the hundred than corn. They are not proper crops to succeed each other in a rotation.

PEACHES.—Mr. Philip Reybold, of Eastern Shore, Maryland, has raised this year over twenty thousand bushels of peaches. They are unusually abundant and cheap in Philadelphia, notwithstanding the most of the crop in Jersey were killed by the frost.

For the Indiana Farmer and Gardener.

Apples for Hogs.

Mr. Editor:—Permit me to make some remarks and inquiries in reference to raising apples for feeding hogs. The origin of the present article is the fact of some of our farmers making orders to nurseries, some for five, and some as high as eight hundred apple trees of one single variety of sweet apple. This, though undoubtedly a profitable investment, seems to me to be an injudicious selection, even admitting the variety in question to be pre-eminent for that purpose.

Here permit me briefly to express some of my views on this subject: and solicit horticulturists of more age and experience, to correct errors, and supply deficiencies. Many reasons might be assigned for varying the selection, but I shall introduce but few at present.

In the first place there would be a large portion of the season when a single variety or kind would not afford ripe and falling fruit.

Secondly, there would be too great an amount of fruit ripe at one and the same time.

And thirdly, the stock would be liable to cloy and tire from so constant a use of the same fruit. Would it not be a more profitable and advisable course to pursue in planting such orchards, to make a selection, comprising varieties that will afford a proportionate amount of ripe and falling fruit from June till winter; and even in this, include many varieties that are slightly acid, in order to give tone to the stomach of the animal, and a keener relish for the sweeter and richer fruits?

I will introduce a short list, that may be taken from, or added to, in order to lay down premises, whereby we may be able to obtain a selection that would be better than to exclude all except any one single kind, viz:

Sweet June, Carolina June, Red Juneating, Prince's Harvest, Sweet-bough, Sweet August, White Sweeting, Hoss Apple, Wine Apple, Rambo, Holland Pippin, Red and Green Sweeting, Golden Russet, Sweet Crimson, Golden Sweet; and to these might be added many of our valuable early winter apples. Information on the above subject, is most earnestly entreated, in order that those who make plantations this season may act advisedly. Z. S. Ragan.

P. S. I would be glad to have from yourself, or some of your able contributors, some advice in reference to the best selection of cider apples and the proportionate number of each to the hundred; as I design setting a a cider orchard this fall. Z. S. R.

REMARKS.

Mr. Reagan will perceive that a list of apples is in the course of publication; and, before it is closed, a list of cider apples, with remarks, will be published.

We entirely approve the suggestion of our correspondent as to the necessity of a larger variety of apples for stock. Farmers are afraid of sour apples; if stock have *only* sour fruit they are injured; but let both sweet and sour grow in the orchard, and experience has determined that they will, of themselves, eat the due proportion of each. Cattle and hogs are as fond of variety in fruit as men are. In raising potatoes, pumpkins, apples &c. for animals, it is frequently supposed that the larger and ranker the growth the better; that, at any rate, cattle fare as well on coarse-grained vegetables as on others. But a rank, coarse, watery vegetable is no better for an ox than for a man. The nutritious principle is the same to man or beast. A fine-fleshed, highly nutritious apple, or potato is as much better for stock as it is for man. If a variety is not fit for men, it is not worth while to cultivate it at all. Cattle shew themselves to be of this opinion when left to range; they avoid coarse, rough herbage, and pick the sweetest and highest flavored. Let the *best* sorts of apples be planted for stock. If one has a seedling orchard which it would be worth while to graft over for human use, let not its poor, miserable fruit be fed to hogs; let it be grafted over even if one means to use it for stock.

We are glad that this topic has been brought up, and hope that our correspondents will not forget to communicate.

The Wheat Crop of Maryland, of the present year, has not only been an abundant one as to quantity, but is likewise remarkable for the excellence of its quality. In the valley of the Susquehana the products of numerous farms have been found to weigh sixty-eight pounds per bushel. In Frederick county, Md., the crop of one farm recently sold to a miller weighed sixty-eight to sixty-nine pounds per bushel.

Small farms may be constantly enriched by manure; but deep plowing and rotation of crops must be, for the most part, the manure of large ones.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Western Shepherd.

[Revised by the author for the Indiana Farmer and Gardener.]

A pure-blooded flock necessary to propagate a national breed. Ram-breeding, a separate business from wool-growing. The number of pure bred sheep produced from one hundred ewes in seven years. The Saxony, Merino, and Illinois breeds of fine-wooled sheep. The price of pure-bred rams. The great value of superior sheep. Lord Sligo's shepherd.

A ready access to a pure-blooded flock, of uniform excellence in quality, from which to procure a constant succession of males for several years, is a circumstance absolutely necessary for the successful propagation of any particular race of sheep. A pure blooded animal is one in which certain qualities and excellencies have been hereditarily transmitted in uniform succession for a number of years. Ram breeders, in England, admit none as members of their clubs who have not cultivated a specific breed for twenty years. A cross-bred animal may be a very fine one, partaking of the valuable qualities of its parent in an eminent degree, but its progeny will often be dissimilar, some resembling one parent and some the other; and not, until after much selection, and *in* and *in* breeding, can the new variety possess the power of uniformly transmitting its own peculiar qualities to its progeny. Hence the necessity of procuring males of a pure breed, especially in sheep, as the ram affects the properties of the skin and wool more than the ewe. If you have but one point of excellence to attain, fineness of wool for example, the selection is comparatively easy; but if two points are required, the choice becomes more limited. You may find many fine fleeces, and many weighty fleeces, but, perhaps, not more than five in a hundred with adequate weight and fineness. When an improvement of form and constitution is an additional requirement sought for in the same animal, the chances of success are much diminished; and the animal combining the three excellencies, when found, has attained a value far exceeding any price that a casual observer would suppose. If, in addition to this new-modeled animal, an hereditary quality of no value is sought to be removed (such as breeding a race of sheep without horns, which, for many generations, have been encumbered with these useless appendages,) the chances of selection are infinitely reduced; and to attain this one point is, perhaps, the labor of years. To pursue this business with any degree of success, the breeder must have an extensive as well as an excellent flock. Although possessed of experience, his judgment must be tested by a continued series of experiments. These, and other important considerations, have caused the breeding of rams to be a business by itself in England. Until ram-breeding is pursued as a business and a science in this country, no permanent or extensive improvement can be expected to take place in any breed of sheep. The third cross or generation possesses equal perfections with the pure blooded male parent; but to attain this degree of excellence the male progeny can never be used until the third cross is attained. In technical phraseology you have then bred home, and may begin to select males for breeding. But to attain to the full breed by means of crossing is not so rapid a process as some suppose. To make this subject more distinct, I will trace the numbers of each cross annually produced from a hundred ewes. It will be found, to the surprise of many, that not more than twelve or thirteen ewes of the third cross can be produced in seven years.

One hundred common ewes, purchased in the fall of 1841, will produce one hundred lambs, half male and half female, in the spring of 1842. The fifty ewes of the first cross will be mothers in 1844. The twenty-five of the second cross may produce twelve in the spring of 1846; and it will be in the spring of 1848 before any increase in the pure blood can take place. Although the fleeces of the intermediate progeny are much improved, it will be the summer of 1847 before a pure fleece can be obtained by crossing. Those who propose to grow fine wool by the process of crossing must have access to rams of the pure blood of the first class for six years at least. Lambs should never be suffered to breed during the first year. Now calculate the progress from ten pure ewes. The calculation is somewhat intricate and requires attention:

	In the spring of			
1842, 10 pure ewes	produce	5 ewe lambs,	5 ram lambs,	
1843, 10	"	5	" 5	"
1844, 15	"	8	" 7	"
1845, 20	"	10	" 10	"
1846, 28	"	14	" 14	"
		42		41

One hundred common ewes, in five years, will give twelve full-bred ewes, and as many rams or wethers. Ten pure ewes, in the same time, produce forty-two pure-bred ewes, and forty-one pure-bred rams.

The Saxony are a variety of the Merino, and were originally brought from Spain. A king of Spain presented to an elector of Saxony a few Merinoes from a royal flock. The agents of the elector selected each individual sheep for the fineness of its wool alone, re-

gardless of its form or constitution. For a number of years the fleece was cultivated and the carcass neglected. Thus, in Saxony, a race of Merinoes sprang up, with finer fleeces than those of Spain, but with tender constitutions and bad forms. The Saxony fleece has one defect. Although soft and fine, it grows too open on the pelt, and yields a fleece too light. The Merino is thicker in pile, and heavier in yolk. Thus two races of fine-wooled sheep exist in Europe with different characteristics in form and fleece. A third variety is now to be found in Illinois; it is believed superior to either of the two celebrated European races. The wool of this flock is thick in pile, soft and fine in texture, and the sheep are of much hardier constitution, and are of improved form to those of Spain or Saxony. This flock is now nationalized and acclimated. From it may be propagated various and extensive flocks to pasture upon the great prairies of the west—yielding to individual enterprise and national protection a much greater return of wealth than the flocks of Spain or Saxony to their respective kingdoms.

For the accommodation of those disposed to purchase the fine-wooled rams of the Edwards county flock, they are divided into three classes. The first class of pure rams are sold at twenty-five dollars each. In this class there is a difference in form, and in character of wool, adapted to the various tastes of purchasers. The second class are sold at ten dollars each. These rams are adapted for country flocks, where the wool is used for domestic purposes, and for this use they answer as well as the rams of the first class. The third class are few in number, possessing superior excellencies, and valuable to critical breeders. No *general* price can be set upon this class.

It is a matter of surprise to some, that an extraordinary price is sometimes given for an individual sheep; but I have before explained that its qualities are superior, or supposed to be so, to any of its predecessors.

Mr. Bakewell, the originator of the new Leicester breed of sheep, annually sold, and let out, many rams at great prices. For the use of one superior sheep he received, every year, four hundred guineas. This one superior animal gave less remuneration to his proprietor than to those who hired him. An amount of national wealth was thus created by furnishing a breed of sheep superior in form and size to any before produced in the nation. Pearls may as well be thrown before swine, as to place superior animals in ignorant hands: as the story of Lord Sligo's shephed will show. Lord Sligo bought of Mr. Elman, a famous South Down ram with which to improve his Irish flock. Some guests dining at the castle, his lordship asked them how they liked the mutton—the answer was equivocal. It should be good, said he, for it cost me over two guineas per pound. The fact was his lordship, in haste, told the shepherd to kill the best sheep in the flock for dinner. The literal shepherd killed the ram, for which his lordship had just paid two hundred guineas. Geo. Flower.

For the Indiana Farmer and Gardener.

Salt.

I have not been able to obtain here more than three varieties of common salt; and I cannot find time to examine their relative values as I could wish to do; but perhaps the following paragraphs may not be altogether unprofitable or uninstructive to some readers.

1. Salt obtained by evaporating the water from bays and other inlets of the ocean, is called *bay* salt; springs and wells also furnish salt water; and vast quantities of salt are dug out of the earth, and this is called *rock* salt. Different modes of preparing these salts, and the locality of the salines give rise to other commercial names, as *Liverpool*, *Onondaga*, *Kenhawa*, and *stored* salt.

2. All these kinds of salt are compounds of chlorine and sodium; and impurities exist in all. In rock salt, which is among the purest, there is often a tinge of various colors, ascribed to the presence of manganese and iron. But the chief impurities in most salt in which we in the west are conversant, are the muriates and sulphates of lime and magnesia. And as the muriate of lime seldom exists in large proportion, I should esteem the presence of the muriate of magnesia as the most objectionable of all the adventitious ingredients in salt. This is what is called at the salt works, *bittern;* I suppose, from its nauseous, bitter taste. It is powerfully deliquescent; and I have seen it in so large quantities in Kenhawa salt, that it attracted moisture enough from the atmosphere to dissolve itself and run all over the wareroom where the salt was stored. If *such* salt is used for butter or meat, it will not only communicate its nauseous flavor to these edibles, but by its water-absorbing property it will keep them perpetually damp, and consequently, disposed to rapid rancidity. In proportion as other specimens of salt contain this muriate, will be the deleterious effects of it. One of the best tests, (and it is within the reach of all,) of the purity of salt from *this* contamination is its degree of *dryness in damp weather*.

3. No doubt, different specimens of salt from the same manufacture, contain variable amounts of foreign matter. I give the re-

sult of an examination of a small quantity of Liverpool, Onondaga and Kenhawa salt; but I enlarge the quantity in the statement so as to make the facts more striking.

The best selections of Liverpool and Onondaga (in loaf) sustained almost an inappreciable loss by drying at the temperature of 400 degrees. We may therefore reasonably infer the nearly total absence of the muriates of lime and magnesia. By precipitation I obtained at the rate of fifty-seven grains of white earthy matter to a pound of salt. On testing this precipitate, I obtained unequivocal marks of lime; and I think we may safely set down this precipitate as chiefly *sulphate of lime*. If I mistake not, this sometimes occurs in much larger proportions than my examination shows. *It* also impairs the virtue of the salt.

One pound of Kenhawa salt lost 320 grains by drying at a moderate heat; indicating the presence of an objectionable quantity of the muriates. The precipitate of foreign ingredients obtained, was equal to 120 grains to a pound of salt; and in this also lime was found in about the same proportion as in the Liverpool and Onondaga salt.

I have no doubt many better samples of the Kenhawa salt could be obtained, than that I experimented on; and I suspect some samples are as much worse, as the others would be better. With some expense and trouble, any of these salts could be sufficiently purified for the best butter and the daintiest meats; and certainly, the quality of salt which a farmer uses, should not be an unimportant item of his concern, if the products of his dairy, if his beef and his pork are worthy of preservation.

4. Salt is found in all the great divisions of the earth; and some of the salt mines of the eastern continent have been worked for hundreds of years. *Fossil* or rock salt has been discovered in several localities, in the limits of the United States territory. In the western part of our State, considerable quantities of good salt are manufactured. I made some notes of a visit to the works in 1830; but they are not at hand: cannot some one in that district give us information of the present condition of the manufactory, the quality of the salt, &c.? I will end this medley of paragraphs by an anecdote from Mungo Park, I think: that in the interior of Africa salt is so scarce, that it is a criterion of wealth; and nothing is a more certain indication of a man's riches than the fact that "he eats salt on his meat." J. T. P.

For the Indiana Farmer and Gardener.

Label-fastenings for Trees.

Those who use any animal or vegetable fiber to fasten labels to their trees, know how soon the thread decays; and they who use wire, find it buried in the bark in a few years, (unless the loop is made very large) and that part of the trunk or limb above the ligature is in danger of being cut off: the same risk attends the employment of twine.

Having experienced these inconveniencies, I was induced to try the method which I have mentioned on page 140 of this paper. The trial of one season proves it to be a *failure;* and I consider it proper (is it not a duty?) to report it so. On apple and pear trees, if the tacks are long, (say three penny nails) so that they may be driven into the *wood*, and the growth of the trunk will not for some time reach the nail head, the practice will answer; and will be found expeditious and convenient.

But the failure consists in the inappropriateness of the method to such trees as exude gum, when wounded. I find, for instance, on my peach trees, wherever the tack was inserted, a considerable wound has followed, filled with gum; and in most cases the tack has been forced out, leaving a hole, formed by a new growth of bark, large enough to require another season or two to heal it up.

With the *labels*, mentioned on the same page (140,) I have no fault to find, thus far. I think they will succeed. J. T. P.

P. S. On page 211, under "Pruning Grape Vines," should not "old wound" be read "old *wood*"? Uncorrected, it may puzzle some readers. [It should be.—*Editor.*]

Letters about Crops.

WABASH COUNTY, Ia.

The character of the two counties, (Wabash and Miami,) as regards the soil, productions, style of farming, and condition of the farming community is so nearly alike, that the same description will apply to both.

The wheat crop is generally good, notwithstanding the slight injury received from the late frosts last spring. The quantity is larger than usual and the quality decidedly superior; indeed I have never known the quality so universally good.

The average yield will probably be from fifteen to eighteen bushels per acre—perhaps nearer the first named quantity. This appears small when compared with the reported yield on the prairies, or in older, or better improved parts of the country; but still I am inclined to think it is larger than was ever realised in this section before.

It should be borne in mind that this country is new; that the wheat is sown among stumps and roots, and often among standing trees, which occupy a considerable portion of the ground and prevent wheat from growing on ground adjoining; so that a field containing twenty acres of ground, will contain,

really, not more than sixteen or eighteen acres of wheat.

Oats are good — the yield will be more than ordinary, and corn will be universally good. I never saw so fine a prospect for a large crop in my life. I have grown corn on the Wabash bottom for the last eight or ten years, and I think my crop this year is twenty-five per centum better than ever before. This I think is generally the case.

The crop of grass was generally bad— not, perhaps, more than half of the ordinary crop; the dry weather in May and June nearly destroyed it.

With the exception of grass, crops of all kinds in this country are very fine; and every acre of land that is cleared, appears to have been put in requisition. Wherever a farm or field is to be found, it will be found to produce a valuable harvest. The partial failure in the crops for the last two years, has induced the farmers to make great exertions to recover from its effects, and they will generally be able to do so.

The style of farming is not thorough—the country is too new, generally; but I must say it is much less thorough than it should be, even at the present day. A few farmers are beginning to adopt a more thorough mode, but great improvements are necessary. I am satisfied that wheat cannot be profitably grown without great improvement in the mode of culture. It is usual to sow it among standing corn, covering a little with a shovel plow and a little with a harrow, but generally not at all. And from this kind of tillage a crop is expected. Vain hope! But there are some men, that even experience will not convince. The apology for this improvident way of farming is found in the fact, that the small quantity of land cleared renders it necessary for the farmer to raise something on every acre each year, and oats and corn are the only crops raised to any extent.

This state of things will not last — a different mode will soon be adopted.

The farmers of this county were, two years ago, generally clear of debt; but the partial failure of the crops for the last two seasons, compelled some of them to contract debts to a small amount, which I think they will generally be able to liquidate out of their crops this year. They are, as a community, perhaps, somewhat remarkable for industry, sobriety and economy; and having a fine soil and a ready cash market for all their products, will not remain long embarrassed. Yours respectfully,

S. Fisher.

Peru, Miami County, Ia.

Grass is almost an entire failure in Miami county, in consequence of the drought and cold.

Wheat is a full average crop, though injured, to some extent, by the frost and dry weather. The quantity in the country will be greater than in former years. I have not heard of the fly this season.

Oats are very fine, and bid fair to be an abundant crop.

Corn is better than I have ever seen it at this season of the year in Miami county.

The scarcity of last year has given a general impetus to labor this year. The corn crop has been better attended than usual. The fruit was entirely cut off by the frost in this county. Yours sincerely,

W. M. Reyburn.

For the Farmer and Gardener.

House Flies.

"*Flies*! Somebody wrote about eggs and chickens awhile ago, and I thought *that* was small enough; and absolutely I will not let myself down by attention to such little things as flies!!" Not quite so fast. Just reflect what quantities of plums, peaches, apples, wheat, &c. &c., are destroyed by flies; and if this is not enough, try to sleep one hot night in New Orleans without a musquito bar; or sit one half hour in a company that you respect, with a flea creeping over you, and you will admit there is "a right smart sprinkle" of birds smaller than chickens which *will have* your attention.

Now, if you will listen, I will tell you how you can most pleasantly and comfortably be rid of your house flies.

My plan is very simple: Persuade them to take their meals and roost out of doors.

I know several families who have succeeded in doing this, and I will give you an illustration *how*, and the proof *that it can be done*.

Mr. P's kitchen is on the *south* end of the house with a convenient porch on the south end two stories high, so that it is not heated from the roof. Still south extends a roof of grape leaves so high as to admit a free circulation of air and so thick as to shut out the summer's sun. Saying nothing about grapes,—a fine place for a washwoman, children, &c. &c. In winter the cooking stove sits in the kitchen, and in summer, upon the porch so as not to heat the house.

By this arrangement, the compounding, cooking, the savory odors &c. are all thrown upon the porch, so that in the sleeping rooms, parlor, sitting room, and most of the day in the dining room their fate is starvation or flight. Thus by appeals to their apetites Mrs. P. persuades them all out doors. Then at night they roost upon the grape leaves as naturally as they will use

the cut paper in the barbers' shops, or the asparagus bushes hung overhead to keep the flies from the walls. Then the facts show that the strong winds, chilly nights, with the help of spiders, bats, and swallows clear the flies away, even from the KITCHEN.

You know, Mr. Editor, that the ladies would as soon see a rattlesnake in the kitchen as a well-dressed editor, who writes as much about culinary matters as you do. But as you are now fairly out here in this most important, though worst furnished room of the house, I will leave you to make observations awhile, and hope you will report in your next No.* But, before I leave, I ask you to see this hard-working woman going away down there beyond the fence for wood, and the water is ten rods off; then just see what a road and what a distance to milking. One of the girls "got stalled" a "dead set" in the mud last winter; and in the cow-yard there is no shelter from the rain or cold, and the mud so deep in the rainy seasons, that it seems a mystery how a lady can milk without gentlemen's boots.

Possibly this is the first time that I was ever in a kitchen "taking notes," and from what I can see, I reckon that when you come out you will say that the inconvenient and bad arrangement of the fitting and furnishing the kitchen is the principal reason why so many more women than men die in the newest settlements of the country.

With the confident hope that your paper may help the kitchen as well as the farm and garden, I subscribe myself,

Yours, truly, PARVUS.

*We take the hint; forthwith we intend to compose a series of papers entitled "Notes in a Kitchen:" and then we shall take the parlor, cellar, bed room, &c—going regularly through the house, and laying down the laws of domestic economy on the right hand and left.—*Ed.*

For the Indiana Farmer and Gardener.

Alabama, May, or Hackleman Wheat.

WASHINGTON COUNTY, Ia.

Mr. Editor: — In the "Farmer and Gardener," twelfth number, you ask for information relative to the wheat crops, and especially for some account of the Alabama, or, as I would say, *May* wheat.

With respect to crops in general, in this county, I would say that there is something over an average yield. Wheat will be somewhat damaged owing to the excessively wet weather since the commencement of harvesting; a great deal of grain has sprouted in the shock.

I have been raising the May wheat, which, from the description I have had of the Alabama wheat, I believe to be the same, for the last four years. I brought between a pint and quart of seed in my saddle-bags from the State of Tennessee. Last fall I gathered four bushels, and sowed three; and this year we have eighty dozen, large bind, which will yield about forty bushels. In no instance have I given it anything like a fair trial. Its chief excellence, I believe, consists in its exemption from rust. In no instance since I commenced its cultivation has it been the least injured by it. It ripens ten or fifteen days before the red-chaff; and I am inclined to the opinion that it will weigh more to the bushel; but of this I am not positive. It is very common in Tennessee to harvest it the last of May; hence the name "May wheat."

Since writing the above I have seen the extract from the "Brookville American," copied in the fourteenth number of your paper, which convinces me that it is the same wheat which is described there, and which appears to be taking the name of "Hackleman wheat." I would very modestly ask whether, that would be an appropriate name for the wheat thus introduced into Washington county?

Yours, &c. WM. M. ALLISON.

We think not. If it is called *Hackleman* in the White-water district, it should be called *Allison* wheat in Washington county; and every farmer may thus give his own name to it. There should be a common name, and May wheat is, perhaps, as good as any. It is advertised in Cincinnati *Alabama* wheat; why not *Tennessee* as well? It is raised in the one State, as well as in the other.

Editor.

Engrafting the Cherry.

BY J. F. KIRTLAND.

The process of engrafting the cherry is usually far more uncertain than other kinds of fruit trees. Strict attention to the following rules will insure a tolerable share of success, and we prefer it to budding.

1st. *The grafts* must be cut before the least circulation has taken place in the sap of the tree. We usually take them off early in February, and bury them in sand, in a cellar not too moist. On the first of March of the present season we inserted a number that we cut immediately from the tree and they lived without an exception. Mr. Sturdevant, an experienced cultivator, of Tallmadge, informs us that he preferred the latter practice. To succeed in this manner they must be inserted as early as the season will allow.

2d. *The time* for performing the operation varies in different seasons. It is at the moment when the first movement of the sap

commences, and is immediately previous to the first swelling of the buds of the stock. This of course will vary in different seasons and in different localities. In 1844 we inserted 150 cherry grafts on the third day of March, of which only three failed, and many of these grafts had been carried fifteen hundred miles in the U. S. mail. The succeeding evening a most violent snow storm succeeded and continued with severe cold for two days, without injuring the grafts. During the first two weeks of March of the present year we inserted some four or five hundred grafts. They apparently took as well as those inserted the previous year, but one-fourth were destroyed either by the frosts of April and May or by the severe drought that prevailed during the spring and summer.

3d. *The stocks* must be vigorous and healthy seedlings. Suckers or sprouts will not answer. For the bigarreau and heart varieties, the black mazzard stock is required. The morello will answer for the duke cherry, though the mazzard stock is preferable.

4th. *The materials* required for the operation are few. A knife with a blade two inches long, one-third of an inch in width, withthe back thin, and edge as keen as a razor; and *strips* of grafting wax, prepared by melting together three parts of rosin, three parts of bees-wax and oneof tallow, and then spreading, with a paint brush, the composition upon *new* cotton sheeting — *old* is not sufficiently strong. When the coat of wax is cold the cloth should be cut into strips ten inches long and three-quarters of an inch in width.

5th. *The mode.* Either saddle or whip grafting will generally succeed. We prefer the former for certainty of success—the latter is more expeditious. Descriptions of both processes are contained in most of the books on horticulture, and are understood so universally as to need no repetition.

When the scion has been well adapted to the stock, by either plan, it must be well secured in its place by winding it firmly with a strip of grafting plaster, so as to cover perfectly all the parts of the stock and graft involved in the operation. If the weather should be very cold, the wax may be softened by breathing upon it or by laying the strips on heated bricks.

6th. In the course of a few weeks, as soon as the grafts have taken a growth of one inch, the strip of grafting-wax should be cut carefully through so as to prevent its ligating, but must be permitted to remain in its position to strengthen the union between the graft and the stock.

Lindley, in his Principles of Horticulture, observes that he "has never lost a cherry by engrafting in this mode." My own success has been far greater than by budding.

W. R. Mag. of Hort. &c.

Subsoil Plowing.

Cincinnati, July, 1845.

Mr. Bateham:—As the construction and operation of the subsoil plow is engaging the attention of a number of your readers, I would inform them that I purchased one of these implements manufactured by Messrs. Ely & Campbell of this city, have given it a thorough trial, and find, so far, it answers all that was promised by its friends. I was enabled to work the ground, (*a stiff clay subsoil,*) 18 inches deep with it, by following two other plows. I worked deeper than for an ordinary crop, it being designed for vineyard planting—and I think it is nearly as well worked as if it had been trenched at a cost of $75 to $90 per acre. It costs about $6 to subsoil it; has performed the work well; preventing the ordinary waste that would have been the consequence of common plowing; as it loosens the ground to such a depth that it absorbs and *under-drains* the superabundant moisture. It also retains moisture for the roots of plants in a long drought, and for lands having a clayey subsoil I think the plow invaluable; also to renew and renovate the old worn bottom lands along the Scioto; the work there would be easy, and I have no doubt, would add ten bushels per acre, to the corn crop, for several years, by one good subsoiling. It would open fresh nutriment to the roots of the crop. Dr. Watts of Chillicothe was at my place and examined my plow; and if he purchased one, he probably can give an opinion as to its merits on bottom lands.

The best way to work the plow is, to take the fore wheels of a wagon and hitch up the plow to the axle-tree, nearest to the off wheel, so that wheel will run in the furrow made by the plow preceding the subsoil plow. In a stiff clay, it is work for four horses to do it well; and as it is work done for years, it should be done well.

The time will come, when our farmers will plow less acres, but *plow deeper*, and make more *money* with less work than they now do. If I was asked, how shall I guard against excessive rains and moisture? I would answer *plow deep;* or how shall I manage to have my crops stand long and scorching droughts? I would answer *plow deep;* as that would enable the roots to strike for moisture deep, when with an unbroken subsoil, they could not penetrate.

Repectfully, &c., J. Brace.

Ohio Cultivator.

A wise lawyer never goes to law himself.

A Melancholy Show of Ignorance.

It is not less melancholy to our readers than ourselves, says the Richmond Whig, that we should so frequently dwell upon the lamentable fact of the great ignorance in our people. We have hoped, and continue to hope, that the day is not far distant when the people, not only of Virginia, but of the whole country may become more enlightened. We mean the masses.

We have always heard that Virginia has within her bounds a large number of white citizens, over the age of twenty years, who know not what it is to enjoy the blessings of an enlightened mind, or the effects of Education. But we had never the remotest idea that the mother of States possessed so much more ignorance than others, when the number of inhabitants were taken into consideration. It seems, however, by a table published, which was taken from the late census, that a picture of Virginia's ignorance is there drawn, calculated at once to crimson the cheek of every intelligent reader.

Our State is here held in contrast with all the other States, and she is proved to be behind not one of them in *ignorance!* But there is a brighter era dawning, and we must hope on—hope ever.

The following table, showing the average number of white persons, over twenty years of age, who cannot read or write, possesses interest for the friends of education:

Maine,	3,241	S. Carolina,	2,615
N. Hampshire,	942	Georgia,	30,717
Massachusetts,	4,448	Alabama,	22,592
Rhode Island,	1,614	Mississippi,	8,360
Connecticut,	526	Louisiana,	4,862
Vermont,	2,270	Tennessee,	55,631
New York,	44,452	Kentucky,	40,018
New Jersey,	6,350	Ohio,	35,394
Pennsylvania,	33,940	Indiana,	38,100
Delaware,	483	Illinois,	27,502
Maryland,	11,817	Missouri,	10,457
Virginia,	58,788	Arkansas,	6,567
N. Carolina,	56,602	Michigan,	———

Curing Horses' Eyes.

There is no disease so prevalent among horses at the south, as that of bad eyes. This is no doubt owing to the practice of putting them under the saddle before they are sufficiently strong. The result is an affection of the spine, manifesting itself by diseased eyes. We have a very fine animal, about six years old, affected in this way and from this cause. One eye is almost entirely useless, although the inflammation was entirely removed by a seton, leaving the pupil white. The other become inflamed, covered with a bluish film, and a thick white spot had risen over nearly half the eye, when, at the suggestion of an experienced stable-keeper, we bled her at the nose by thrusting a penknife into the soft flesh just above the nosrtil. The result was immediate reduction of the inflammation, and restoration of the sight after a second incision. The same gentleman has recovered the eyes of two horses in the same way, which seemed entirely gone—one of them having actually having sunk in the head. We consider the remedy an excellent one, and the matter of sufficient interest to give it publicity. The knife should be employed every two or three days, until a cure is effected, which will almost certainly take place. At least we have full confidence in the remedy. Many very valuable horses may be saved in this simple way from becoming entirely blind.

Richmond Star.

A Stray Ox.

Capt. Fremont, in his second exploring tour to the Rocky Mountains and regions beyond, gives the following incidents.

"Ten or twelve buffalo bulls were seen during the afternoon; and we were surprised by the appearance of a large red ox. We gathered around him as if he had been an old acquaintance, with all our domestic feelings as much awakened as if we had come in sight of an old farm house. He had probably made his escape from some party of emigrants on Green river; and, with a vivid remembrance of some old green field, he was pursuing the straitest course for the frontier that the country admitted. We carried him along with us a prize; and when it was found in the morning that he had wandered off, I would not let him be pursued, for I would rather have went through a starving time of three entire days, than let him be killed after he had successfully run the gauntlet so far among the Indians. I have been told by Mr. Bent's people of an ox, born and raised at St. Vrain's fort, which made his escape from them, at Elm grove, near the frontier, having come in that year with the wagons. They were on their way out, and saw occasionally places where he had eaten and lain down to rest; but did not see him for about 700 miles, when they overtook him on the road, travelling along to the fort, having unaccountably escaped Indians and every other mischance.'

Mr. Delashmutt, of Buckeyestown, Frederick county, Maryland, delivered a load of wheat at the Monocacy mills, a few days ago, weighing sixty-nine pounds per bushel. It is believed his whole crop will average sixty-eight and a half pounds per bushel!

Vincennes Gazette.

The Butting Buck.

The River (Ala.) State Review publishes the following wonderful story. We are very much disposed to doubt its authenticity.

Game to the last. — A friend related to us the following: Being at the house of a neighbor a short time since, the crowd concluded to amuse themselves by telling yarns. After several pretty round ones had been told, Joe B. was called upon, when with great gravity he gave the following:

"Two years ago last pullin'-fodder time, uncle Josh B. had a buck that was sort o' bro't up in the lot and about the house, and the boys had, by foolin' with him, learned him to 'butt' as hard as a mule could kick—and 'butt' he would at everything that came in his way, until it seemed as if he would 'butt' everything off the lot. So uncle Josh concluded to see if he couldn't give him his fill of butting. Out he goes and takes a big hickory maul and hangs it pretty well up in an oak tree, letting it hang just low enough for Mr. Buck to take a fair crack at it. He knew that he would make at anything pushed towards him, always taking such move as a banter. Uncle Josh waited patiently till the buck came round, when he gives the signal, and here he came with such a 'ram,' that it would have knocked down a bull! Away flew maul, and back bounded the buck! Go it, my good fellow! sings out uncle Josh. If you can whip the maul, your head's a hard 'un. Seein the motion of the maul, as it commenced its return swing, the buck met it again about the "meeting place," driving the maul some twenty feet into the air—and bouncing from it himself like a cricket ball! Hurra my little woolley! says uncle Josh, who began to be interested in what he considered an unequal fight—there's very little sheep in your head if you stand another lick, certain.

But here comes buck and maul again, with nearly the same result as before, except that the blow did not seem quite so heavy on the part of the buck. At him again my hard head, sings out uncle Josh; take your fill of butting; and at him again, the little fellow went; and kept repeating until uncle Josh thought the very devil was in the head of the sheep sure enough. But back went maul, and butt went buck, and to the astonishment of uncle Josh, the buck showed no signs of quitting still. Well, says he, if you choose to butt your own brains out, why, go ahead. Whack! whack! went head and maul. By this time it was nearly night and no sign of quitting, and uncle Josh left. Next morning he got up early and looking out saw the maul and the "buck's tail hopping at it," being all that was left of the "butting buck."

Great Yield of Hay.

Mr. H. P. Hickok, of this place, gathered from two and a half acres of meadow, last week, thirteen great loads of hay in good order. The hay was herdsgrass with a sprinkling of red clover and red-top, and the loads are estimated by the hands in the field at one ton each. This meadow was cleared of pine stumps, and heavily manured some twenty-five years ago. Since then, it has invariably produced large crops, mostly of hay, and with very little manure of any description. Five tons of the best hay to the acre is something for the most fertile district of country to tell of.

Burlington (Vt.) Free Press.

Heavy Wheat. — In all contests for superiority in raising agricultural products, Carroll county is always a prominent, and most generally, a successful competitor. We lately published accounts of certain lots of wheat raised in Frederick county, that weighed sixty-eight and sixty-nine pounds to the bushel. The Carroltonian states that some white wheat, the product of the farm of Mr. John Orndorl, of that county, was measured and weighed seventy-nine pounds to the bushel.—*Balt. Pat.*

He that is going to speak ill of another, let him consider himself well, and he will hold his peace.

One mild word quenches more heat than a whole bucket of water.

Forgive every man's faults except your own.

'Tis more noble to make yourself great, than to be born so.

If you would have a thing kept secret, never tell it to any one; and if you would not have a thing known of you, never do it.

Nothing in the world is stronger than a man, but his own passions.

There is a manner of forgiving so divine, that you are ready to embrace the offender for having called it forth.

He, who is master of the fittest moment to crush his enemy, and magnanimously neglects it, is born to be a conquerer.

Everything may be mimicked by hypocrisy, but humility and love united. The humblest star twinkles most in the darkest night. The more rare humility and love united, the more radiant when they meet.

The wrangler, the puzzler, the word-hunter, are incapable of great actions.

To heap fresh kindnesses upon ungrateful men, is the wisest, but withal the most cruel revenge.